

Subject: Street Talk: May 2016

From: LA Great Streets

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To:

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Garcetti**
#lamayor

**GREAT^{LA}
STREETS**

STREET TALK

May 2016



Throwback to one of our March Challenge Grant events, Pacoima Street Values.

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Forward

Welcome to the May 2016 edition of Street Talk, the Great Streets Initiative's monthly newsletter! Here, we'll update you on the work happening in our studio and out on the streets. If you're reading this and need more great news in your life, check out our new [website](#), like us on [Facebook](#), follow us on [Twitter](#), or double-tap us on [Instagram](#).

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Art Activation Fund
- People St Program
- Councilmember Corner: Mike Bonin
- Small Business Spotlight: Colima's Party Supplies
- Save the Dates
- Grant Funds Available

See you on the street!

Arts Activation Fund Winners Announced!



The Mayor's Great Streets Initiative and Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs are proud to announce the first four Arts Activation Fund winners! The first set of awardees include:

CJ Berina of Collective Lifestyle L.A. Inc.

May 7, 2016

Reseda Blvd Summer Art Series will work collaboratively to produce a free and recurring event featuring curated visual arts installations, pop-up murals, performing arts, music and dancing.

Mario Fenix LAX Cruz

May 7, 2016

Art Wars LA is a venture philanthropy festival of inner city cultural arts that seeks to foster artistic growth and support community talent.

Francisco Letelier

May 29, 2016

ARTBLOCK will work collaboratively to produce a "block party" of open studios and related events with artists, curators and cultural programs.

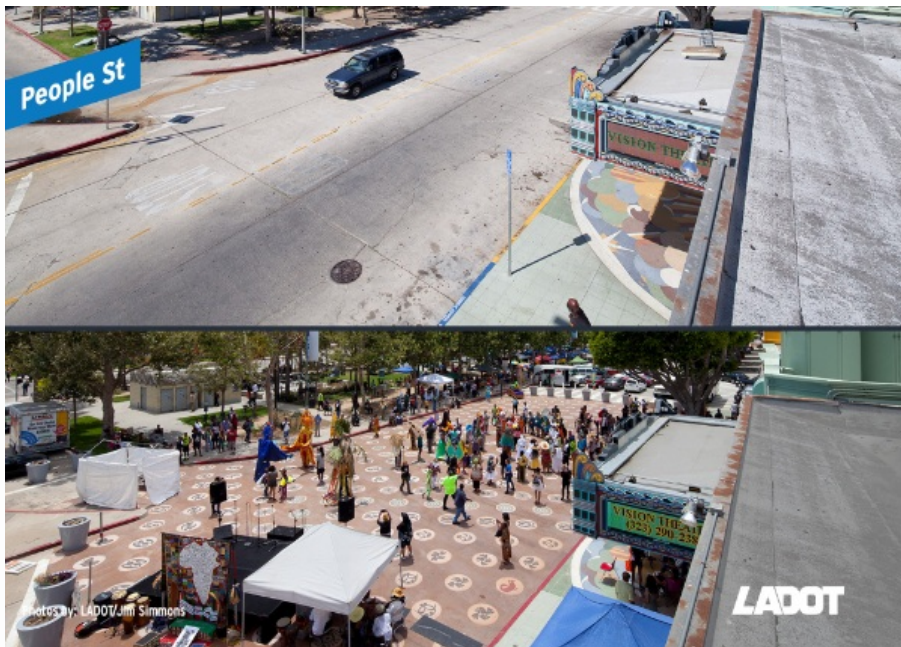
Emily Mkrtychian

April 28, 2016

Luis I Luso Installation will create multi-media installations that use Armenian music and film to bring dormant spaces back to life. Creative lights and music will transform an inactive space in LA's Little Armenia.

Read more about these artists and the arts activation fund [here](#). The Arts Activation Fund awards up to \$15,000 and is on a rolling basis. To learn more about the Fund and the application process please click [here](#).

LADOT's People St Wins APA Award!



Leimert Park Village Plaza has been bustling with activity since installation, offering a legitimate venue for cultural activities already happening around the neighborhood.

At the American Planning Association (APA) conference this year in Phoenix, Arizona, the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) People St program was awarded APA's National Planning Achievement Award for Best Practice. People St is a partnership-based program between LADOT and local stakeholders - businesses, nonprofits, others - who host parklets, plazas and bike corrals. [Read more here.](#)

Keep up the amazing work People St!

Councilmember Corner: Mike Bonin Council District 11



Every month, Great Streets likes to feature one Councilmember and his or her Great Street. This month, and in celebration of Bike Month, we're honored to feature

Councilmember Mike Bonin. As Councilmember for the city's Westside, Councilmember Bonin's priority is to promote mass transit and traffic relief, protect the environment, and use technology to make government more effective, efficient and transparent. A regular user of mass transit, Councilmember Bonin is a key player in regional transportation matters as chair of the council's Transportation Committee and member of the Board of Directors of the LACMTA.

Q: You've been a leading champion to make Los Angeles a safer and more friendly place to walk and bike, how do your priorities and policies support and foster a more bike-centric Los Angeles?

My priority is putting neighborhoods first, and that means making sure that all of our neighborhood streets are safe and inviting for everyone to use. My work as Chair of the Transportation Committee and member of the Metro Board has been focused on giving people transportation choices. Almost half of all trips people take in LA are less than three miles, but a staggering 87% of those trips are made by car. If we can making walking and biking in our neighborhoods safer and more convenient, we can take cars off the road and make our neighborhoods better and safer places to live, work and enjoy.

Q: What are three things that make a street great to you?

Safety, accessibility and atmosphere. A truly great street is one that would feel at home in Mayberry, where instead of rushing down the street as fast as possible, people feel comfortable taking the time to enjoy being in the neighborhood. That comfort can only happen if people feel safe, if it is accessible to everyone, and if the atmosphere is warm, fun and inviting.

Q: What upcoming projects are you most excited about, and in what way will this contribute to your district?

I am obviously very excited about the Venice Boulevard Great Streets project in Mar Vista. We are starting to roll out some pilot projects that not only make the corridor safer, but also that give Venice Boulevard a distinctly "small town downtown" feel that Mar Vistans will really enjoy. In addition to Mar Vista's Great Streets project, we have exciting street safety work happening in Playa del Rey, a massive undertaking to try and address serious traffic issues on Sunset Boulevard through increased carpooling and creative design solutions, and the opening of two game-changing public transportation projects on the way - Metro's Crenshaw Line and the Airport Connector that will let people get to and from LAX by public transportation.

Q: How would you spend a day on your district's Great Street, Venice Blvd (i.e. where will you eat, window ship, hang out)?

The stretch of Venice Boulevard is full of terrific destinations to enjoy. People can get a cup of coffee at Venice Grind, eat a delicious meal at Status Kuo, find a treasure to take home at Vintage on Venice, get a scoop of ice cream at Sweet Lucie's or even pick up a rotisserie chicken at Mar Vista Market. I chose this section of street for the Great Streets program because it was right on the verge of becoming the "downtown" area that Mar Vistans deserve, and I am incredibly excited to see the street improvements that will come when the Great Streets program starts to get installed.

Q: May is National Bike Month, how do you plan to celebrate this year?

Bike month is always a great time to celebrate the increasing importance bikes have in LA's transportation system. In addition to the media and community events celebrating Bike Month, I am very excited about the grand opening of the Metro Expo Line on the Westside. I am going to host a celebration of the opening at the Bundy/Expo station in my district, and we are making the event "bike-themed" to highlight the important relationship between bikes and the new train on the Westside.

Small Business Spotlight: Colima's Party Supplies

Central Avenue, Historic South Central LA



Owner, Petra, standing in front of her long-standing business in Historic South Central Los Angeles.

Petra owns and operates Colima's Party Supplies located on Central Avenue, in the Historic South Central. She has lived here for thirty years, relocating from Colima, Mexico. Petra takes great pride in the services she provides her community, and has been a staple in the neighborhood for 11 years.

For years Petra dreamed of opening her business. She opened Colima's Party Supplies down the street from her home so she could walk to work. Petra is really invested in the neighborhood and tries to support the community where she can. She says she has been holding a lot more sales at the store so more members of her community can enjoy her party supplies and services. She regularly loans her parking lot for community outdoor movie nights, and contributed to the decorations and supplies for the Challenge Grant event, [Youth Envisioned Streets](#) on Central Avenue in February.

To visit Colima's Party Supplies and enlist Petra's party expertise, visit 4160 S Central Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90011 or call at (323) 233-5804.

Save the Dates!

PICO BOULEVARD TOWN HALL

Sunday, May 22, 2016

4:30PM - 6:30PM

Parish Hall, Holy Spirit Catholic Church

1425 S. Dunsmuir Ave (enter on Burnside)

Find out more [here!](#)

GENSLER'S PARTICIPATORY DESIGN WORKSHOP

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Doors will open at 6:00PM and the panel discussion starts at 6:15PM.

500 S. Figueroa St, Los Angeles, CA 90071

Join the California Historical Society at the Gensler, Los Angeles office, for a stirring panel discussion about how participatory design impacts the creation of the built environment in LA and beyond. Presenters and participants will consider how public participation does, could, and should impact current projects in LA. RSVP [here](#).

SHERMAN WAY ART WALK + NIGHTTIME MARKET

Saturday June 4, 2016

5:00PM - 10:00PM

Sherman Way between Etiwanda & Lindley

Come with us to Sherman Way for live art, interactive light installations, light projections, food trucks, live performances, classic car show, beer garden, and vendors.

Grant Funds Available!

TRICK OUT MY TRIP

Apply by May 20th to #TrickoutmyTrip. Learn more about ioby and TransitCenter to improve the transit experience. Learn more [here](#)!

LA2050's PARTY AT THE POLLS GRANT

Apply by Tuesday May 10th for up to \$3,500 for a #PartyatthePolls [here](#).

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